

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims

Claims 1-12 (canceled)

1 **Claim 13 (currently amended):** A device for preventing
2 an incorrect insertion of a cartridge into a cartridge
3 storage space, the cartridge including ~~an information~~
4 recording medium disposed within a housing, the housing
5 having at least one of a recessed part and a through hole
6 disposed at a position other than a central position of the
7 housing ~~a housing having a recessed part and containing~~
8 either a magnetic tape reel or an optical disk, the
9 recessed part being used for inserting a reel base that
10 engages with the magnetic tape reel or the recessed part
11 being used for inserting a rotary drive spindle motor for
12 the optical disk, said device comprising:

13 a claw operable to protrude into the recessed part ~~or~~
14 ~~the through hole~~ of the cartridge only when the cartridge
15 is inserted into the cartridge storage space in a correct
16 orientation; and

17 a stopper operable to work with said claw such that
18 when said claw protrudes into the recessed part ~~or the~~
19 ~~through hole~~ of the cartridge, said stopper is disposed to
20 allow the cartridge to be inserted and stored in the

21 cartridge storage space, and when said claw does not
22 protrude into the recessed part ~~or the through hole~~ of the
23 cartridge, said stopper is disposed to prevent the
24 cartridge from being inserted and stored in the cartridge
25 storage space.

1 **Claim 14 (previously presented):** A device as claimed
2 in claim 13, the cartridge being inserted into the
3 cartridge storage space in a correct orientation when the
4 cartridge is inserted from a predetermined direction into
5 the cartridge storage space.

1 **Claim 15 (previously presented):** A device as claimed
2 in claim 13, further comprising a joint part operable to
3 join said claw with said stopper, said joint part being
4 disposed to rock on a shaft as a fulcrum.

1 **Claim 16 (currently amended):** A device as claimed in
2 claim 13, ~~said device~~ further comprising a plurality of at
3 least one of said claw and said stopper.

Claim 17 (canceled)

1 **Claim 18 (currently amended):** A device for preventing
2 an incorrect insertion of a cartridge into a cartridge
3 storage space, the cartridge including an information

4 recording medium disposed within a housing, the housing
5 having ~~at least one of~~ a recessed part ~~and a through hole~~
6 ~~disposed at a position other than a central position of the~~
7 ~~housing~~, said device comprising:

8 a claw operable to protrude into the recessed part ~~or~~
9 ~~the through hole~~ of the cartridge only when the cartridge
10 is inserted into the cartridge storage space in a correct
11 orientation;

12 a claw position detecting part operable to detect when
13 said claw protrudes and does not protrude into the recessed
14 part ~~or the through hole~~ of the cartridge, and output a
15 detection result; and

16 a determining part operable to determine whether the
17 insertion of the cartridge is in a correct orientation
18 based on the detection result of said claw position
19 detecting part, and output a determination result; and

20 said determining part operable to activate at least
21 one of: a suspension operation to suspend the insertion; an
22 operation to provide information of an incorrect insertion;
23 and an ejection operation to eject the cartridge from the
24 cartridge storage space, when said determining part
25 determines that the insertion of the cartridge is not in a
26 correct orientation.

1 **Claim 19 (previously presented):** A device as claimed
2 in claim 18, the cartridge being inserted into the

3 cartridge storage space in a correct orientation when the
4 cartridge is inserted from a predetermined direction into
5 the cartridge storage space.

Claim 20 (canceled)

1 **Claim 21 (currently amended):** A cartridge changer for
2 performing cartridge changing and preventing an incorrect
3 insertion of a cartridge into a cartridge storage space,
4 the cartridge including ~~an information recording medium~~
5 ~~disposed within a housing, the housing having at least one~~
6 ~~of a recessed part and a through hole disposed at a~~
7 ~~position other than a central position of the housing~~
8 a housing having a recessed part and containing either a
9 magnetic tape reel or an optical disk, the recessed part
10 being used for inserting a reel base that engages with the
11 magnetic tape reel or the recessed part being used for
12 inserting a rotary drive spindle motor for the optical
13 disk, said cartridge changer comprising:

14 a plurality of cartridge storage parts each of which
15 includes the cartridge storage space for mounting the
16 cartridge;

17 a moving mechanism operable to move a selected one of
18 said plurality of cartridge storage parts from a first
19 position, at which ~~a user inserts~~ the cartridge is inserted

20 into the cartridge storage space, to a second position
21 which is different than the first position; and

22 a device disposed in at least one of the first
23 position, the second position, and the plurality of
24 cartridge storage parts, said device comprising:

25 a claw operable to protrude into the recessed
26 part ~~or the through hole~~ of the cartridge only when the
27 cartridge is inserted into the cartridge storage space in
28 a correct orientation; and

29 a stopper operable to work with said claw such
30 that when said claw protrudes into the recessed part ~~or the~~
31 ~~through hole~~ of the cartridge, said stopper is disposed to
32 allow the cartridge to be inserted and stored [[in]] in the
33 cartridge storage space, and when said claw does not
34 protrude into the recessed part ~~or the through hole~~ of the
35 cartridge, said stopper is disposed to prevent the
36 cartridge from being inserted and stored in the cartridge
37 storage space.

1 **Claim 22 (previously presented):** A cartridge changer
2 as claimed in claim 21, the cartridge being inserted into
3 the cartridge storage space in a correct orientation when
4 the cartridge is inserted from its backside into the
5 cartridge storage space.

1 **Claim 23 (currently amended):** A cartridge changer as
2 claimed in claim 21, the second position being adjacent to
3 a cartridge inserting point of a cartridge control device
4 used for recording information to and/or reproducing
5 information from ~~the information recording medium~~
6 the optical disk or magnetic tape contained on magnetic
7 tape reel.

1 **Claim 24 (currently amended):** A cartridge changer as
2 claimed in claim 21, further comprising a cartridge control
3 device disposed in a position adjacent to the second
4 position, said cartridge control device comprising:
5 a second cartridge storage part for mounting the
6 cartridge; and
7 a control part operable to record information to
8 and/or reproduce information from ~~the information recording~~
9 ~~medium~~the optical disk or magnetic tape contained on
10 magnetic tape reel.

1 **Claim 25 (previously presented):** A cartridge changer
2 as claimed in claim 24, said cartridge control device
3 further comprising a second device operable to prevent an
4 incorrect insertion of the cartridge into said second
5 cartridge storage part.

1 **Claim 26 (previously presented):** A cartridge changer
2 as claimed in claim 25, said second device being operable
3 to detect that the cartridge has been inserted into said
4 second cartridge storage part in an incorrect orientation.

1 **Claim 27 (previously presented):** A cartridge changer
2 as claimed in claim 26, the cartridge being inserted into
3 said second cartridge storage part in a correct orientation
4 when the cartridge is inserted from its foreside into said
5 second cartridge storage part.

1 **Claim 28 (currently amended):** A cartridge changer as
2 claimed in claim 25, said second device containing a
3 projection for preventing the incorrect insertion of the
4 cartridge into [[the]]said second cartridge storage part,
5 wherein a notch provided on a corner of the cartridge must
6 be aligned with said projection for correct insertion.

Claims 29-43 (canceled)

1 **Claim 44 (new):** A device for preventing an incorrect
2 insertion of a cartridge into a cartridge storage space,
3 the cartridge including an information recording medium
4 disposed within a housing having a recessed part, said
5 device comprising:

6 a claw operable to protrude into the recessed part of
7 the cartridge only when the cartridge is inserted into the
8 cartridge storage space in a correct orientation;

9 a stopper operable to work with said claw such that
10 when said claw protrudes into the recessed part of the
11 cartridge, said stopper is disposed to allow the cartridge
12 to be inserted and stored in the cartridge storage space,
13 and when said claw does not protrude into the recessed part
14 of the cartridge, said stopper is disposed to prevent the
15 cartridge from being inserted and stored in the cartridge
16 storage space; and

17 a determining part operable to provide information of
18 incorrect insertion when the insertion of the cartridge is
19 not in a correct orientation.